

Regional Advisory Council  
Outreach to Health Professionals Committee  
August 13, 2007 Meeting Minutes

Leading:

Sheila Snow-Croft

Attending:

Martha Earl

Frances Henderson

Allison Howard

Cathy Jordon

Diana McDuffie

Rita Smith

Feili Tu

Toni Yancey

The meeting began with general introductions. Allison Howard, from the University of South Florida, has replaced Ellen Sayed, who has moved to Doha, Qatar, for a new position.

Sheila Snow-Croft provided a general RML Update:

- New NN/LM SE/A classes include Grants and Proposal Writing, Measuring Your Impact: Using Evaluation for Library Advocacy, the online version of ¿No Comprende?: Spanish Health Information Resources for English Speaking Librarians, and the Patient Safety Resource Seminar.
- Upcoming NN/LM SE/A classes and resources include Evidence Based Nursing, an online version of Nursing on the Net, Outreach for Hospital Librarians, Patient Informatics, Veteran's Health, and a Health Literacy Toolkit. A general discussion followed regarding in-person and distance education needs and expectations.
- On 8/14 at 8:30 and 2:30 EST, the NN/LM SE/A will host a web conference, "It Takes a Village: Community outreach can be rewarding, challenging, and daunting," led by Toni Yancey.
- Update on NN/LM SE/A funding available for Year 02 of the 2006-2011 contract. Available funding includes one Library Improvement Award, two Express Welcome Awards, three Express Planning Awards, and the Katrina Relief/Delta Information Access Project Awards, which will be available until August 24th.
- The RML has a new Community Outreach Coordinator: Mandy Bayer Meloy. She was a hospital librarian at Northeast Georgia Health System and an AHEC librarian at the Foothills AHEC in Gainesville, GA. Mandy earned both her MLIS and an MA in Comparative Literature at USC, and is very excited to be working with the RML.
- Our Outreach Challenge was discussed. We issued one in February, 13 each in months March and April, 23 in May/June, and 26 in July. Participants were encouraged to help spread the word and continue to send in reports so their outreach efforts can be documented.

The RAC Oversight Committee consists of Linda Gorman (Consumer Health Outreach), Patricia Hammond (Technology), Jan Orick (Access), and Dan Wilson (Disaster Preparedness Task Force), along with Diana McDuffee, who is representing our OHP group. Diana gave a brief overview of the first Oversight Committee meeting and discussed challenges for the year ahead.

Emergency Preparedness is a topic of great importance, and NLM Resources were discussed, along with general discussion regarding what is involved and needed to meet possible disasters. We will be covering this in more depth in future meetings, and all input and suggestions are welcomed as we try to make sure we are all prepared for many different types of emergencies.

JCAHO changes are particularly relevant to this group, and the web resources for a white paper on Health Literacy and the National Patient Safety goals were shared with the committee.